

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): May I know from the Diwan Peishkar whether the plot in question will be put up for public auction?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): Of course, excluding three and odd acres.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): Will it be published in the Gazette?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): It is only after publication in the Gazette that auctions are held.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS—1113 AND 1117—
LIST OF VOTERS

14. **Mr. C. V. Iyyu** (*Kunnamkulam*): Will Government be pleased to print and lay on the table a statement containing the number of voters in each constituency in the last Legislative Council elections and the number of voters in each constituency according to the voters list already published by Government for the ensuing elections of the Council?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): A statement containing the information is placed on the Council table.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have noted that invariably in all constituencies except one or two, the number of voters has decreased by hundreds and in some cases by thousands?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): At a glance at it I have been able to find that there have been slight decreases in some and a large decrease in a few.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): Will the Government be pleased to instruct the Village officers to find out *suo moto* the number of voters omitted in the first list and include it in the final electoral roll?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): There is a method provided by the Legislative Council Electoral Rolls for the preparation of these lists. That stage at which the work has to be done by Village officers is past. The next stage is for claimants and objectors to come in. I do not think there is any place for the Village officers' work at this stage.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal (*Vadakkancheri*): Have the Government noticed that there are flagrant violations with reference to the previous roll and do the Government think that the Village officers have done their duties in this matter properly? There are

cases where the number has gone down to more than 50 per cent. Do the Government think that the Village officers have done their duty properly in preparing a list like this and do the Government think that simply because a list is prepared it is the duty of the persons omitted to be included, to put in claims because the rule is like that? This is a case where the Village Officers have absolutely failed to discharge their duties in the matter of preparing these lists. That is my point. If the Government are now satisfied that there are some very great mistakes in the list prepared, is it not the duty of the Government to rectify those mistakes?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): If the Hon'ble Member will point out the rule in the Preparation of electoral rolls the matter will be considered. But if there is no such rule the Government cannot do it.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): When was the last roll prepared? Has three years elapsed from the preparation of the last roll?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): Yes.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): Is there not a rule of law that every three years fresh rolls must be prepared?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): Yes. There is the rule and it has been acted upon.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): It was followed. But they are finding fault that it was incomplete. The question is asked; "Can you go through them a second time and submit a fresh roll"?

Mr. L. M. Pylee (*Latin Christians-Ernakulam*): May I know whether the last final list is made use of in the preparation of the present list?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): I must ask that question to the persons who prepared the list.

Mr. L. M. Pylee (*Latin Christians-Ernakulam*): Is it not a basis for the preparation of the present roll?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): They might have looked into it.

Mr. L. M. Pylee (*Latin Christians-Ernakulam*): We find that some names which are found in the previous final list are not found in the present list. The names of those who died before the new lists were prepared are found included in the list. I thought that the previous list is a sort of basis for the preparation of the present list.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Cheruthuruthi*): The preliminary list was prepared a year ago for this year's election. Will the Government in view of that special circumstance be pleased to prepare a supplementary list and place it before the Revising Authorities?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): I don't know whether there is any provision for the preparation of a supplementary list. It is with the object of giving all those who want to come in an opportunity that the time for the submission of claims has been extended up to 15th Chingam 1117. There was a suggestion made by the Hon'ble Member Mr. Iyyu regarding this. That was accepted.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal (*Vadakkancheri*): My point is that the Revenue Authorities have not done their duties properly. Suppose there are thousand electors in a particular village and according to the preliminary list there are only 100 voters. Is it the case of the Government that these 900 voters should put in their claims because there is a rule to that effect?

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Have the Government any objection to give up the preparation of these lists and ask all the voters to put in claims?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): If the law is so changed, we will give it up. There are two things to be considered. One is that the rolls are not prepared properly. That is one thing. The other thing is, what is the method by which these mistakes can be rectified. That is the point with which we are at present concerned. If it is the other thing you have said sufficient to bring to my notice the necessity of inquiring into the conduct of certain individuals. That, of course, is an entirely different matter. But so far as the preparation of the supplementary electoral rolls is concerned there is no remedy except putting in claims.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): There is another remedy. When an electoral roll is prepared it should be to the satisfaction of the Diwan Peishkar that the roll is *prima facie* to a large extent correct. Suppose in a list which contains 100 names 75 are wrong, are we to depend upon that list?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): The Diwan Peishkar sees this list only when the preliminary lists are published and copy is sent to him. The Diwan Peishkar appoints certain Registration Officers who do the work and send the roll directly to the Government, and after the whole thing is printed a copy is sent to the Diwan Peishkar. Then the Diwan Peishkar knows what exactly is the work done. The public have an opportunity to find out whether names have been omitted.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): May I know whether this serious disparity was noted either by the Diwan Peishkar or the Government when it was published in the Gazette?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): So far as I am concerned I have not noted it.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): I should like to know whether the Government have noted it?

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar (*Trippunittura*): Who is responsible for the preparation of the list?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): The Registration Officers.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Is not the Diwan Peishkar responsible for the preparation of the list?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): Yes.

Mr. V. J. Mathai (*Planters*): Will the Government be pleased to inquire into this question?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): Oh, yes.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): May I request the Hon'ble Member not to stand on the rigid rule but to give a supplementary list?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): What is not allowed by law the Government cannot do.

Mr. T. P. Poulse (*Kanayannur*): Can the Government correct the present electoral roll of their own accord?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): I am not in a position to answer that question without looking into the rules.

Mr. L. M. Pylee (*Latin Christians-Ernakulam*): Has any check been exercised upon these low servants who prepared these lists?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): Check has always been exercised.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): Is it not the duty of candidates and political parties to attend to all these things?

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar (*Trippunittura*): May I know whether there is any rule with regard to the time at which the electoral roll should be prepared?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): There is a period fixed when the electoral roll should be prepared and that is three years after the publication of the previous list.

Mr. V. J. Mathai (*Planters*): Will the Government be pleased to consider this question seriously?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): Yes.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Can the Government honestly assure this House that the list now prepared is substantially correct?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): I believe, it is substantially correct except in one or two instances where the discrepancies are very great. One of them is Chittur-Tattamangalam. Except with reference to these one or two, they are substantially correct.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal (*Vadakkancheri*): There are other places also.

KERALA KALAMANDALAM—PARTICULARS REGARDING

15. Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): Will Government be pleased to state.—

- (a) whether the Kerala Kalamandalam which has been taken over by the Government recently is to be maintained from the general funds of the State;
- (b) if it is from the general funds, what amount Government will have to spend for its up-keep if the institution is not self-supporting;
- (c) whether the assets of the Kalamandalam has been handed over to the Government;
- (d) if so, what are the actual assets in terms of rupees, annas and pies;
- (e) the income and expenditure derived because of the activities of the Kalamandalam the previous year ending with the 1st Medam 1116;
- (f) whether the Government had given free grant of (i) land and (ii) recurring and non-recurring money grants;
- (g) if so, the total acreage of land and the total amount of money in each case;
- (h) the caste-war statement of pupils, teachers and other staff in the Kalamandalam at present;
- (i) whether the school for teaching, dancing, etc., is open for all castes and creeds?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*):

- (a) Yes, tentatively from the general revenues.